

# Brechin Bulletin

## 16th February 2024

### **Bishop's Lent Appeal 2024: "Save the Children: Gaza Crisis" Appeal**

Bishop Andrew has chosen the Save the Children "Gaza Crisis" Appeal for our Lent Appeal, with its special focus on humanitarian aid for the children affected by the dreadful violence and humanitarian disaster developing as Israel engages in military action in Gaza.



The politics of the Israel-Gaza conflict are complex, with Hamas atrocities committed on October 7 and hostages taken and held, and the overwhelming Israeli military response since then leading to so much suffering in Gaza: that ongoing suffering of so many civilians and especially the children of Gaza demands our support.

Please either collect during Lent for gathering and passing on to Save the Children after Easter, or give directly to Save the Children at <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/how-you-can-help/emergencies/gaza-crisis-2> if you wish to add Gift Aid to your donation. Please let the Diocese know of you give directly so we can thank you for your response to the appeal.

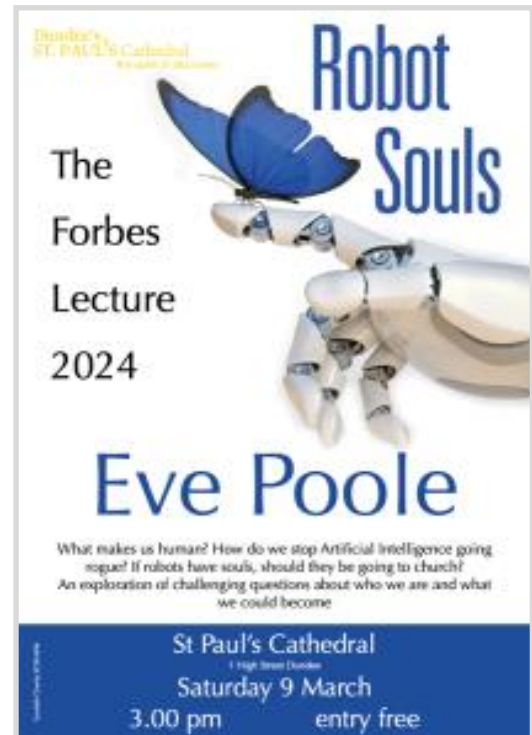
### **'Forbes' Lecture: "Robot Souls", 9th March at 3pm with Dr Eve Poole OBE**

This year's Forbes Lecture has Dr Eve Poole OBE giving a lecture, entitled 'Robot Souls'. In her new book of that same title Eve looks at what we've been deliberately leaving out of the design of AI. It turns out that all that 'junk code' left on the floor contains the very essence of our humanity. As hallmarks of soul, this code is vital to our flourishing. Might it be vital to the flourishing of AI too?

Eve is an academic and writer who specialises in leadership. Her books include Capitalism's Toxic Assumptions, Buying God, and Leadersmithing. Eve was the first female Chairman of Gordonstoun School in Moray from 2015-2021. She also served as Third Church Estates Commissioner for England from 2018-2021, and was Interim Chief Executive of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2022. She was awarded an OBE in the 2023

New Year Honours List for services to education and gender equality.

The Forbes Lecture is a new initiative, to modernise and replace the 'Forbes Evensong' to commemorate Bishop Alexander Penrose Forbes that was held each year in October with a guest preacher.



### **Cathedral Lunchtime Concert : Friday 23rd February 1pm**

The Cathedral's next Friday lunchtime concert is on Friday 23rd February at 1.00pm. Come and enjoy the music of the Soteria Piano Trio made of Laetitia Panetier on the violin, Sarah Nail on the cello, and Edyta Mydlowska on piano. Tickets are available at the door and cost £5 for adults or £3 for students. The concert will last 45 minutes with coffee/tea and cake being served after.

### **Training Day for Charge PVG Coordinators on 24th February at St Mary's Broughty Ferry 10 am to 1.30 pm.**

This is being led by John Wyllie the Provincial Safeguarding Officer. There will be coffee/tea on arrival and doors will be open from 09.30 am. Please bring your own lunch but tea/coffee will be provided for those who are travelling far after the meeting. Contact Revd Denise Herbert at [dbh.herbert@btinternet.com](mailto:dbh.herbert@btinternet.com) with any queries.

## **Interested in a Retreat this Year? Open Event at Whitcheater 17th-19th May 2024**

A retreat is planned for 17th - 19th May 2024. It will be at Whitcheater Christian Guest House, a beautiful and tranquil setting in Hawick, and will be led by Cathedral clergy. The cost is approximately £180 per person (full board). If you want to go then fill in a booking form and return to Rev'd Roxanne Campbell. Form can be downloaded [here](#). For more information contact [roxanne@saintpaulscathedral.net](mailto:roxanne@saintpaulscathedral.net)

## **Scottish Government Legislation: Register of Controlled Interests—Vestries be Ready for Actions**

The "Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016 (Register of Persons Holding a Controlled Interest in Land) Regulations 2021" is an Act to improve transparency about land ownership by making information about those who have a controlling interest in land publicly available, even if they are not the official owner of the land. Most vestries fit this category and have been asked (by the diocese) to provide consent for key members to be registered by the end of March 2024.

## **War in Israel-Palestine: Anglican Emergency Appeal for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem**

This year's Bishop's Lent Appeal is for the Save the Children Gaza Appeal. There are other ways of supporting those working in that area. The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and the Archbishop of Jerusalem Hosam Naoum have issued a joint emergency appeal for the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem in their work to help the those suffering including victims of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Details of international partners in the UK where donations can be made are: JMECA (UK): <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/24585> Friends of the Holy Land (UK, Joint Anglican-Roman Catholic): <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/donate/christmas>.

As ever, please pray for peace in this terrible time of war and violence in the Holy Land.

## **Help? Liturgical Cruet set/ Lavabo Set**

Does any church have an extra cruet set and/or lavabo set for use in the Liturgy that they would be willing to gift to the Scottish Episcopal Institute. Provincial Ordinands would use these in their training weekends at St Mary's Monastery, Kinnoull. Please

contact Enza Gibson (Ordinand of the Diocese of Brechin) at [enza.gibson@btinternet.com](mailto:enza.gibson@btinternet.com) if you can help. Thank you.

## **St Drostan's Church , Tarfside, looking for a "Leaded Window Restorer"**

One of the 4" panes of plain frosted glass in our West Window has been broken and we are having difficulty in finding anyone who is willing to repair this leaded window in situ at Tarfside.

We are therefore asking anyone who has knowledge of anyone, or any company, who can carry this important repair, to please contact me.

Rev Jane Nelson. Email; [nelson.jane1@btinternet.com](mailto:nelson.jane1@btinternet.com) or telephone 01569 730967

## **Cost of Living Crisis: Info and Projects**

The Cost of Living crisis continues in the winter of 2024, and in this colder weather the pressure on people trying to heat their homes with continuing high utility costs. Churches and charities are also feeling the pressure of raised bill. Inflation is dropping—but that just means that prices are rising less quickly, rather than the cost of living dropping back down. Some churches continue to share 'cosy spaces' in their churches or halls to give a warm space, activities and a warm welcome to members of the public. Watch social media pages for details of the times and places.

The Diocese is continuing to place information and resources to help with living costs on a page on the Diocesan website. The page can be found here: Cost of Living Crisis page [here](#).



## **Any news to share in the Bulletin?**

If you have details of upcoming events, stories and photos of events around the diocese, please email Elliott Scarfe in the office on [office@brechin.anglican.org](mailto:office@brechin.anglican.org).